

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0062] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0062] Fig. 11 is a plan view showing a molding surface of a mold piece 10 according to a fifth embodiment of the present invention. Fig. 12 is a cross-sectional view showing the details of an aperture. At each position of the molding-surface 14 corresponding to a land of the tread portion and spaced from the narrow gap 17 in the abutment surface 12, an air-permeable sintered plate member 52 is arranged for forming the air discharging fine aperture. A sleeve 53 attached with the sintered plate member 52 is embedded so that the end surface of the sleeve 53 and the outer surface of the sintered plate member 52 form part of the molding surface 14 of the mold piece 10. As shown in Fig. 11, sleeve 53 and air-permeable sintered plate member 52 can, for example, be arranged adjacent to ridges 13 or adjacent to a junction of ridges 13.

Please replace paragraph [0068] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0068] A seventh embodiment of the present invention will be explained below with reference to Figs. 15 and 16. Fig. 15 is a plan view showing a molding surface of the mold piece 10, and Figs. 16(a) and 16(b) is a plan view and a cross-sectional view, respectively, showing the details of air discharging fine aperture. At the position of the molding-surface 14 corresponding to the land of the tread portion and isolated from the narrow gap 17 in the abutment surface 12, there is arranged a cylindrical member 71 having a top surface, which forms part of the molding surface 14. The top surface of the cylindrical member 71 is provided with a slit 72 forming an air discharging fine aperture. The air spaces caused at a location isolated from the narrow gap 17 can be directly discharged to the exterior of the mold, through each slit 72. The preferable range of the slit 72 is 0.02 mm to 0.1 mm for width w6, and 0.1 mm to 2 mm for depth h6. As shown in Fig. 15, slit 72 and cylindrical member 71 can, for example, be arranged adjacent to ridges 13 or adjacent to a junction of ridges 13.